National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Office of Communications 300 E Street SW, MS5L9 Washington, DC 20546-0001



July 26, 2019

Taylor Amarel MuckRock News Dept MR 74966 411A Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02144-2516 74966-09458235@requests.muckrock.com

REF: 19-HQ-F-00630

Dear Mr. Amarel,

Thank you for your interest in NASA. This is the final response to your FOIA request dated June 6, 2019, and received at the NASA Headquarters FOIA Office on June 14, 2019. Your request was assigned FOIA Case Number 19-HQ-F-00630 and was for:

All emails sent to, from, or copied to James Frederick Bridenstine from January 1, 2019 to present day, containing any of the following non-case-sensitive key-string: "Whistleblower".

As we informed you in our letter dated July 12, 2019, we categorized you as an "all other" requester. Such requesters receive two hours of search time and the first 100 pages free of charge. Since you have not stated a willingness to pay all fees associated with processing the request, provided an amount up to which you are willing to pay, or requested a fee waiver as set forth in 14 C.F.R. § 1206.506, we only processed your request up to what you are entitled for free.

In response to your request, NASA's Office of Information Technology (IT) conducted a search of Mr. Bridenstine's email account using the search term, "Whistleblower." IT expended your two free hour of search time conducting its search, and located 344 pages of emails. Thus, we are only providing you with 100 pages of those emails. We reviewed the responsive records under the FOIA to determine whether they may be accessed under the FOIA's provisions, and we are providing all 100 pages in full.

To be of some assistance, please note that the remaining 244 pages fall into the following categories:

- 1. Automated training notifications from NASA's training system;
- 2. Morning Consult subscription news emails;
- 3. Furlough Email Notices;
- 4. NASA Statutory and Sectional Analysis Review;
- 5. The Inspector General Semiannual Report;

- 6. NASA Policies and Merit Systems Principles Emails;
- 7. Federal Employee Rights pamphlet attachment; and
- 8. Whistleblower Disclosure Training Email.

If you wish to obtain any or all of the remaining 244 pages, please notify us in writing of your willingness to pay an amount up to the total processing fee of \$36.60 (encompasses duplication costs at \$0.15 per page).

Appeal Rights

You have the right to appeal this response. Your appeal must be received within 90-calendar days of the date of this letter. Your appeal must be in writing and addressed to:

Administrator ATTN: FOIA Appeals NASA Headquarters Executive Secretariat MS 9R17 Washington, DC 20546

Both the envelope and letter of appeal should be clearly marked "Appeal under the Freedom of Information Act." You must also include copies of your initial request, this correspondence, and any other correspondence with the FOIA office. In order to expedite the appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should also contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this initial determination should be reversed.

Assistance and Dispute Resolution Services

For further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact NASA's Chief FOIA Public Liaison, Stephanie Fox, via telephone at 202-358-1553 or via e-mail at Stephanie.K.Fox@NASA.gov. You may also send correspondence to Ms. Fox at the following address:

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Freedom of Information Act Unit NASA Headquarters Attn: Stephanie Fox Chief FOIA Public Liaison300 E Street, S.W., 5P32 Washington D.C. 20546 (Fax) 202- 358-4332

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services it offers. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS

College Park, Maryland 20740-6001

Email: ogis@nara.gov Telephone: (202) 741-5770 Toll free: 1-877-684-6448 Fax: (202) 741-5769

<u>Important</u>: Please note that contacting any agency official including the undersigned, NASA's Chief FOIA Public Liaison, and/or OGIS is not an alternative to filing an administrative appeal and <u>does not</u> stop the 90-day appeal clock.

If you have further questions, please also feel free to contact me at 202-358-0680 or hq-foia@nasa.gov.

Sincerely,

MIREYA P. NYIRENDA FOIA Public Liaison Officer